

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

March 21, 2002 LB 898A, 898

yes to advance this because it is the right thing to do. It may not be the most popular but it is the right thing to do. Those who can't at this time vote to advance it, you still have my respect because I understand why you're doing it. But there still needs to be a majority of the Legislature who we can begin to address the budget as a process. The first part of the process was we marched through cuts and transfers. The second part is harder and that part is to reduce state aid to something we all want to do and like to do and think is important. But it is the state budget that we've got to be concerned about. That is your first obligation as a state senator. And so with that I appreciate the time that we spent. There are other parts of this process that are going to come next. Each piece will get a little harder. But that doesn't mean that each individual piece isn't important. This is very important to do. If we don't do this piece, it causes all the other pieces to become very, very difficult, if not impossible. And if those pieces all fall apart, we have a huge hole and you may be glad that this is the smallest cut that you would ever take for schools. I think it's a reasonable one, although not pleasant, but it's the right thing to do. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. The question before the body is the advancement of LB 898 to E & R Initial. All in favor of the advancement vote aye, opposed nay. We're voting on the advancement of LB 898. Have you all voted who care to? A record vote has been requested. How many requested a record vote, just for the record? Who? Senator Schrock? Have you all voted who care to? Record, please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal page 1069.)
32 ayes, 12 nays, on the advancement of LB 898, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: LB 898 does advance. Mr. Clerk, next agenda item.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 898A by Senator Kristensen. (Read title.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Kristensen, you're recognized to open on LB 898A.